

To the honorable house of Delegates of Virginia  
the petition of Frederick Adler  
Respectfully sheweth.

That your Petitioner is well versed in all the branches of the tobacco-manufacturing business, having been regularly bred to it in Europe, and has nearly completed in the town of Petersburg at a considerable expence the necessary works for carrying it on. That he is emboldened in his application for legislative aid, from a conviction that every plan that tends to increase the value of the staple commodity of this country, will meet with the countenance and protection of this honorable house. Under this idea he humbly begs leave to represent that tobacco, <sup>when</sup> manufactured bears at least three times the price of tobacco in its natural state, and that this appreciation of value is wholly owing to the improvement it acquires in the manufacturing; a business, which a few hands can execute, very few indeed, compared with the multitudes employed in the raising of it. Hence he hopes it is evident that the labor of a few, bestowed in the manufacture of tobacco, is productive of more profit to the community, than that of many times the number employed in the culture of it; and that the exportation from hence of tobacco manufactured here, will command greater returns from abroad, than the exportation of five or six times the quantity not manufactured: add to this, the considerable savings to the country, by keeping in it the  
large

large sums of money (not less than £50,000 ann.  
at a moderate computation) which formerly went  
out of it in purchase of snuff and other modifications  
of the very tobacco which grew here, and <sup>which</sup> after being  
manufactured in Europe was reshipped to this coun-  
try and sold, perhaps to the very planter who  
raised it, at twelve or fifteen times as much  
as he received for it.

Your Petitioner further begs leave respect-  
fully to shew that a still greater saving may be  
secured to the state, by permitting your Petition-  
er and others in the same line of business, to  
purchase the refuse tobacco from the warehouses.  
The whole of this tobacco, if not rotten, can be used to  
great advantage in the manufacture of several  
kinds of snuff and of smoking tobacco; whereas  
at present it is wholly useless to the planter who  
raises it, and is either destroyed as the law di-  
rects, or underhandedly smuggled abroad by a  
fraudulent combination to the prejudice of the  
Sain trader as well as of the public revenue. Your  
Petitioner humbly hopes that no just objection  
can arise to this application from any supposed  
danger of injuring the credit of our staple a-  
broad, inasmuch as the more indifferent to-  
bacco would be chiefly used in manufactu-  
ring here; should the legislature enable the ci-  
tizens to go largely into the business, and if any  
should be shipped clandestinely, there could not even  
in that case be much injury, as in Europe pur-  
chases are made by the sample, and the good-  
ness or badness of the tobacco ascertained by ac-  
tual

tual inspection and examination at the time of sale.

Your Petitioner therefore respectfully  
submits the premises to the consideration of  
the honorable house, and humbly prays that  
the importation of manufactured tobacco may  
be subjected to an additional duty or totally pro-  
hibited, as may be thought best; and that the  
refuse tobacco at the several inspections may  
be exposed for sale, for the purpose of ma-  
nufacturing, under such restrictions and  
regulations as may secure the credit of our  
staple abroad and the increase of the revenue  
at home.

And your Petitioner, as in duty  
bound, shall ever pray &c.

Frederick Adler

We the subscribers approve of the above application,  
and pray that the prayer of the Petitioner may be  
granted under such regulations & restrictions  
as to the General Assembly may seem fit.

Wm. Dupper

Wm. Batts

John Batts - Junr

Anthony Williams

Joseph Williams Junr

Nicholas P. Carratt  
Joseph Stacy  
David Fisher

Tho. Butler

Henry Butler

Jo. Butler  
John Butler

Tho. Allen

John Allen

Tho. Brouder

David Brouder

John Picer

Wm. Brouther

John Brouther

Balling Baller

John Keys

Peterson Keys

Jeremiah Brouther

Tho. Buckley

Wm. Phillips

John Clements

Wm. Clements

of Fred. A. Allen  
to  
Gen. Assembly  
22. December 1887  
Refered to Commissioners  
28/

deposited in  
Art. 1  
in New York